

The LBC Form for Students

Declaration of Learning Beyond the Classroom (LBC) Experience

Overview

The Learning Beyond the Classroom (LBC) experience provides an opportunity for each student in the College of Arts and Sciences to broaden their education to include exciting and rewarding involvement in a learning experience not commonly found in a traditional course setting. The LBC experience will help you develop knowledge and skills that are in demand by employers, graduate schools and professional schools and are useful for life. Depending on the LBC experience you choose, the knowledge and skills learned can be discipline specific or more general or a combination of both.

Learning Beyond the Classroom Experiences

The following is a list of the LBC experiences you can choose from:

- Internship/Practicum/Student Teaching Placement (involvement in organized, career-related activities supervised by an external agency, business, or organization, or by a unit of the University)
- Honors Thesis (conducting an independent project under the direction of a faculty member culminating in the writing of a thesis in fulfillment of the Honors program requirements)
- (Non-thesis) Undergraduate Research (involvement in a project under the direction of a faculty member that does not require the writing of a thesis)
- Teaching Assistantship (e.g., teaching a laboratory section of Chemistry 110)
- Service Learning/Civic or Community Engagement (e.g., substantial involvement in organized activities related to serving the community, such as working to develop and/or advocate for public policy; see attached guidelines)
- Study Abroad (arranged through the Study Abroad Office)
- Preceptorship (available fall semesters only; see attached guidelines).

NOTE: Typically, regular courses would NOT count as fulfilling the LBC requirement, although students may seek an exception for courses that incorporate a substantial service-learning or civic/community engagement component, with the support and approval of the faculty instructor, their major advisor and department chair.

LBC Learning Objectives

While the options above provide a wide variety of opportunities for students to engage in activities *beyond the classroom*, a true Learning Beyond the Classroom experience is a

learning experience. In order to fulfill the LBC requirement, the activities you engage in should provide opportunities to achieve several of the following learning objectives (some LBCs will meet some objectives more than others):

1. Professional development (e.g., learning about the world of work, professional behavior etc.)
2. Personal development (e.g., self-awareness, ethical values, resilience, social relationship skills)
3. Developing professional contacts and networking
4. Independent learning
5. Higher-order skill development (e.g., research, applied writing, leadership, critical and creative thinking, etc.)
6. Problem solving and resourcefulness

Instructions

Before beginning any activities to fulfill the LBC requirement, you should:

1. Consult with your major advisor to choose the most appropriate LBC experience for you
2. Complete all sections of the LBC Declaration Form (pg.1).
3. Provide a short narrative in the space provided (pg.2) (500 words or less):
 - a. Describing the LBC experience you have chosen.
 - b. Indicating how this experience relates to your career interests.
 - c. Establishing the timeline for completing the activities
 - d. Discussing exactly how that experience will provide you with opportunities to achieve **two or more** of the learning objectives listed above.
4. Obtain all signatures.
5. Midway through the experience, complete the Interim Progress Report (pg.3) and obtain all signatures.
6. At the completion of the LBC, reflect on your experience (pg. 4), obtain all signatures, and submit the completed Declaration form to the A&S College Evaluator (Hillyer Hall, Room 204 or 205).